

DAWLISH COAST TEAM MINISTRY

A newsletter brought to you every fortnight throughout the year with information from the churches of St Gregory's (Dawlish); St George's (Holcombe); St Mary's (Cofton) and St Paul's (Starcross).

Issue date: Sunday 19th July 2026

www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk

DEAR FRIENDS.....

Preb Chris Curd writes:

..... I wonder how you have been surviving the recent hot weather? As I write there is a welcome morning breeze; just a brief respite? In the worst of the heat, I felt as if my brain was melting and all I could do was sit by a fan with a wet tea towel on my neck and rest! Please do look after yourselves.

Sadly, we are going to have to be prepared for more unpredictable weather, including heat. Scientists are clear that no one "weather event" can be laid at the door of climate change, but that the accumulation of weather events certainly can.

Cathy Slade and I have just completed a course run jointly by the Dioceses of Exeter and Truro on Creation Care. We learned a lot. I confess that I had never heard of the IPCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with scientists from 195 member countries of the UN, reporting on every possible factor, from the winds, ocean currents and temperature, to what is happening in the tiniest microorganisms in nature.

Sunday 2nd June, at 6pm, St Greg's is hosting a showing of the film, the **People's** Emergency Briefing. The **National** Emergency Briefing was held in Westminster Central Hall on the 27th November 2025. Eight leading experts, chaired by Professor Mike Berners-Lee, gave a concise, high-level and unfiltered briefing on the entire interconnected crises - including threats to food supply, health, and national security. They also set out how investing in genuine emergency action will make us better off. The invitation-only audience of over 1200 included politicians and influential figures from business, culture, faith, sport, and the media. The film is now being rolled out across the UK, and is supported by the National Trust, RSPB, Church of England, Exeter University, the Royal Meteorological Society, Royal Society of Biology, National Education Union, and many more. Please do come to this showing.

Why is the Church involved? Well, the Gospel encompasses Creation Care. It is not a project or an add on. There is no room here to expand on the "theology" of this. There was so much we reflected on that just made us want to sing "How Great Thou Art". Our teacher, the Revd Dr Lucy Larkin, (Principal of the local Spiritus Theological College) encouraged Cathy and I to share some of a presentation we did in the church magazine! Well, just a couple of points.

Cathy – whilst walking my puppy, I have been struck by the whole package – the bigness of it all .. not just the views and the wildlife, but the fact that God is in this. His creative force upholds it, He loves it and we are to love what he loves.

Chris – the Word became flesh and dwelled among us - and became part of the carbon cycle and microscopic particles of his last breath are part of creation today.

And a thought to finish. Do we believe that nature (the creation) is a commodity which belongs to us or a community to which we belong?



A 'BUZZING' THOUGHT from Cath Chappell



I'm not a great insect lover, but does anyone else feel sorry for them as they repeatedly fly into a window on a hot day, desperate to get back outside? I've spent the last few days on numerous little rescue missions, trying to catch bees and flies in a glass and gently release them into the garden. More often than not, they seem determined to avoid my help—darting away, hiding in awkward corners, or even flying straight back inside moments after I've set them free!

It made me wonder if, at times, we're a bit like those insects. We can spend so much energy battling against life's problems while trying to avoid God's gentle hand reaching out to rescue us. Sometimes it's fear, sometimes ignorance, and sometimes we simply think we know better. Yet even when we run from Him—or find ourselves needing rescuing over and over again—God never gives up on us. Unlike my patience, which can wear thin, God's patience is endless. His love never falters, and His helping hand is always reaching out.

So the next time you rescue a little insect, perhaps say a prayer of thanks that when you feel like that window-bashing bee, you have a loving God who never stops seeking, rescuing, and caring for you. May we always recognise His hand and willingly accept His help.

HOSPITALITY WEEK AT THE BISHOP'S PALACE

As part of Exeter Diocese's Hospitality Week, churchwardens, PCC secretaries and treasurers from across the Diocese were invited to enjoy an afternoon of hospitality hosted by the Bishop. The gatherings are a way of recognising and thanking the many volunteers whose faithful service often happens quietly behind the scenes, while also celebrating the Diocese's commitment to joyful hospitality. Representing St Mary's Church, Cofton, Churchwarden Ruth Cann and PCC Secretary Valerie Jeffery were delighted to attend. Ruth said: *"It was a lovely cream tea with extra strawberries and cream! It was a really lovely afternoon with lots of fun and chat."* Ruth is pictured aside enjoying the afternoon.



The event provided a wonderful opportunity to meet others serving churches across Devon, share experiences, and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Bishop's Garden.



We need 
YOUR CURTAINS!
OR MATERIAL

Neutral or pastel coloured curtains or material in shades of **BEIGE, CREAM, BROWN, BLUE or GREEN** – plain or striped to make Bible character costumes for Dawlish Carnival.

 Any size, any fabric – all gratefully received!

NEEDED BY FRIDAY 31ST JULY latest please!

Please contact alex_pugh@sky.com to arrange collection

Or drop off at The Strand Community Centre, Dawlish

Thank you for helping bring the Bible to life! 

DAWLISH COAST TEAM MINISTRY

FIRST FRIDAY

of the month

7PM FRIDAY 7TH AUGUST

St Gregory's Church, Dawlish

A friendly evening for everyone – come as you are!

Come along, relax and make friends

 **PIZZA** **CAKE** **REFRESHMENTS** **BOARD GAMES** **CARD GAMES** **FRIENDSHIP** **CHAT**

 **Everyone welcome – new faces always welcome!**

 **DIOCESE OF EXETER**
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

LADIES' SUPPER, SIPS & WONDERFUL COMPANY

Cath Chappell writes: Ladies are you free on Saturday 1st August for a relaxed and enjoyable ladies' evening together?

Following the success of last year, I'd love to repeat our fish and chip supper at Sea Breeze, Dawlish, meeting at around 6pm. Afterwards, we'll continue our fellowship over a drink or two (i.e. beverages of any kind) — sharing conversation, laughter and plenty of catching up.



If the weather is kind, we hope to enjoy our drinks al fresco next door. If not, we'll simply find a comfortable spot nearby where we can continue enjoying one another's company indoors. We usually finish at around 9.30pm, so it's not too late, but it's always such a lovely opportunity to spend time together and head home with happy memories.

If you'd like to come, or if you have any questions, I'd be delighted to hear from you.
Email: cath.godden@outlook.com Call or text: 07880 557772

SIGN THE PETITION *Chris Curd writes:*

I'm a passionate supporter of plant-derived materials to replace plastic and a keen recycler too, but we also need to drastically reduce our reliance on fossil-fuels, and that needs new solutions - however the way legislation is at the moment plant-based alternatives are taxed and treated as if they were made from virgin plastic. There's an online petition calling on the Government to modernise tax policy so that bio-based products made from renewable feedstocks are no longer unfairly taxed as fossil-derived products. This simple change would help to:

- * Strengthen UK manufacturing and create skilled jobs.
- * Reduce reliance on imported fossil resources.
- * Encourage investment in sustainable innovation.
- * Support the UK's ambitions for growth, resilience and net zero.

Please follow this link to read more and sign the petition:
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/767417>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! The St Greg's Pudding Club ladies had a couple of birthdays recently, so they went out and had afternoon tea together at the Wild Goose. They report it was a lovely afternoon in great company and of course with amazing chat.



CONGRATULATIONS HELEN!



Sunday 5th July was a day of celebration at St George's, Holcombe as Rev Helen Bays marked 25 years since her ordination. Helen led the Holy Communion service after which she cut a celebration cake which was much enjoyed by all those assembled!

SERVICES – 19th July to 1st August 2026

Sunday 19th July - Trinity 7

9.30am St George's – Holy Communion
9.30am St Paul's – Morning Worship
10am St Gregory's – Greg's@10
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion
6pm Telephone Service – to join dial 0330 088 1927
followed by access code 2132492

Wednesday 22nd July

10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion

Thursday 23rd July

3pm St Gregory's – Funeral Service
of the late Grahame Allin

Sunday 26th July – Trinity 8

9.30am St George's – Morning Worship
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion

Wednesday 29th July

10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion



TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

A half hour of prayer online
Tuesdays at 9am.

Click on [this link](#)
or go to <https://zoom.us/join>
and enter:
Meeting ID: 891 1433 5818
and Passcode: Wedlake

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri.
PRAYER HALF HOUR
From 6.30pm on Zoom
Please follow this link
[HERE](#) to join

DIARY DATES

JULY

Tuesday 21st Ladies' Lunch,
12noon at Amelia's, Cofton Holidays.

Tuesday 28th Julian group, 2pm in St. Gregory's.

AUGUST

Saturday 1st Ladies' Supper – see page 3 for details

Sunday 2nd The People's Emergency Briefing —
a screening of the eye-opening film on the
climate and nature crisis. St Gregory's, 6pm.

Wed 5th Drop In – St George's, Holcombe. 2-4pm.

Friday 7th First Friday - St Gregory's, 7pm –
see page 2 for details

Sat 15th to Fri 21st Dawlish Celebrates Carnival.

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

DROP IN

A warm welcome for everyone!

St George's Holcombe
Dawlish Coast Team Ministry

1st WEDNESDAY of each month
2pm - 4pm

Come and join us for

- Tea, coffee and home-made cakes
- Knitting for good causes
- Games and jigsaws
- or just sit and relax in good company!

Just passing by? Then why not **DROP IN** and see what's happening!

ALL ARE WELCOME

MEET: a chat, meet new friends
PUZZLE: always a jigsaw puzzle on the go!
CREATE: scrabble or bring your knitting or craft project, you're working on
REFRESH: tea, coffee and of course cakes! No charge - it's free!
RELAX: on a sunny day a beautiful garden to enjoy

All welcome - no need to be a Church Member

St George's Holcombe Dawlish Coast Team Ministry

If you would like any support, or someone to talk to, or you know of someone else who does,
please contact one of the following from the Ministry Team:

Revd Linda Cronin (Rector): 01626 927281 or email: revdlinda@icloud.com

LLMS: Steve Cronin: 07817 678774; **Will Halse:** 01626 866054; **Ceri Lee:** 07739 936286.

Benefice Administrator: (Tues-Fri 10am-2pm): Rachel Hammond 01626 864322

Safeguarding Officer at St Greg's: Tess Hickson 07376 658440

Information and contact details for Safeguarding Officers in the other churches can be found on our website [here](#)